

Remarks

In Claim 6, the “support frame” is supported by the reference numeral “14” in Figs. 1 and 4.

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of claim 2 and better distinguishing the polymer element layers.

The invention now defines a glazing unit in which a male fastening member is embedded in a polymer and protrudes through the internal polymer and support structure to be fastened by a female member that distributes pressure through the internal polymer layer upon tightening as described on page 8, lines 1-13.

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of the claims as now amended under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Bolton, et al.

Bolton, et al discloses a glazing unit which comprises glass. The problem with glass is that drilling of glass to provide a countersunk hole requires two steps and considerable glass breakage. Also, the combination of glass and polymer are incompatible in extreme climatic situations because of differences in expansion and contraction which would lead to breakage or leakage. The present invention is intended to overcome the problems of the reference which is owned by the present assignee.

Consequently, there can be no anticipation since the reference does not on all four corners teach the present invention.

Bolton, et al does not make obvious the instant invention as presently claimed.


Bolton, et al requires resinous interlayers in which the attachment member is mounted in the resinous layers. The attachment means is primarily a tab in T-form and preferably provided with resistance means. The use of tabs is to prevent delamination and as a glazing unit for windows. Male and female fastening members are not used or embedded as provided by the present invention. The bolts in the reference are to attach corners of the units to a frame. The bolts are not embedded in a polymer.

McCann and Yoxon, et al adds nothing to the teaching of Bolton, et al which would lead to the present invention. The combination of references would only lead to bolts used as fasteners at the corner of the glazing unit.

In contrast, applicants have a bolt embedded within an ionomer which is not found at all four corners. There is further the internal polymer layer adjacent to the support structure that distributes the pressure when the female member is tightened. This important feature is not disclosed in the prior art.

The fastening of the bolts in the secondary references does not result in the distribution of pressure as presently claimed.

Respectfully submitted,
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